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WASHINGTON LETTER

From our Regular Correspondent.

Another billion dollar Congress! Although the exact figures cannot be given until the last appropriation bill has been passed, it is already known and admitted by the republican Chairman of the committee on appropriation both House and Senate, that the total appropriations will not only exceed one billion dollars, but that they will go enough beyond that amount to break the high water record made by the previous billion dollar republican billion dollar Congress by an advance of thirty or forty million dollars. This, too, in the face of the general republican howl about the insufficiency of revenue provided by the present tariff bill. There is little doubt that the republican leaders have allowed the appropriations to pile up, although apparently fighting for economy by shutting out bills even for the smallest public building, in order to make the deficit big enough to excuse the tariff bill they are engaged in contesting. They have made a success of the big appropriations, but when the people get a whack at them in the next Congressional election they will find how their excuse has been accepted. Representative Sayers, of Texas, who was chairman of the committee on appropriations in the last House, made a rattling good speech, attacking the extravagance of this Congress, while the sundry civil bill was before the House.

Notwithstanding the amendments made to propitiate the opposition, Senator Sherman who was in charge of the arbitration treaty, was compelled to bow to the inevitable and agree to postpone further consideration of the treaty until the next session.

In a speech made by Pension Commissioner Murphy, in answer to resolutions commending his administration of the Pension Bureau, presented by a committee from two Pennsylvania G. A. R. Posts, Mr. Murphy told for the first time in public, the instructions given him by President Cleveland when he appointed him Commissioner of Pensions. Whatever may be one's opinion of many of his other policies, it is difficult to see how any man could have outlined in a few words a more just and patriotic pension policy than President Cleveland did when he said to Commissioner Murphy: "Mr. Murphy, I think you know my ideas of the Pension Bureau and the pension system. They are just these: In claims coming up for the action of the Bureau, where you find the case of a worthy soldier who served his country faithfully in her hour of danger, you will be lenient and give him the benefit of a reasonable doubt. In settling the claims of the widows and orphans, you will act in the same manner, but waste no sympathy on the unworthy." It should be placed to the

credit of Mr. Cannon, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, that he reported adversely to the resolution appropriating five hundred dollars for the erection of a stand for the use of Senators and representatives and their families on Inauguration day, on the ground that Senators and Representatives pay for seats, just as other people do; if they wish to sit down to view the inaugural parade.

Senator Quay has a letter which was written by Mr. Hanna before Mr. McKinley's nomination, demanding that the Pittsburg Iron and Steel Manufacturers put up a big sum of money to be used in McKinley's behalf, and to have threatened to make it public if the McKinley crowd attempt to get too gay with him. Quay is now in Pennsylvania, where he went to help his son "Dick" out, in the libel suit, which has been thrown on his shoulders by the publisher of a Pittsburg paper.

When a democrat or a populist uses such language as Representative Calderhead, a good Kansas republican, did before the House Banking and Currency Committee, of which he is a member, certain republican editors invariably call it "anarchistic raving." The text of Mr. Calderhead's remarks was the bill naming thirteen American millionaires, among them Andrew Carnegie and Phil Armour, as incorporators of the "International American Bank," with authority to establish eight branch banks in other countries. This bill or a similar one has been before this Committee in several Congresses, and it was only when an attempt was made to push it through the Committee when Mr. Calderhead spoke against it, in part as follows: "The whole United States is in a condition of unrest. The under-half of the country believes that it is injured, and injured largely by the power of aggregated wealth. They actually believe it. They believe it to such an extent that large areas of the country need nothing but a leader of ability to give us an insurrection. That is the truth, and that is the political storm that will follow any attempt, direct or indirect, to incorporate the men named here into a private bank with a capital of millions of dollars, and the plea that it is done for the benefit of international commerce will not answer that mob—for it is a mob—which only needs a commanding general to lead it. If the leaders should happen to have the military instinct, it would mean civil war."

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A North Carolina King.

Newbern Journal.

Two or three years ago a young North Carolinian named Hobbes went to New York, resided there for some time, met a young lady with whom he fell in love, the passion was reciprocated, and the twain became engaged. Hobbes' source of income was somewhat precarious and not what he deemed satisfactory upon which to commence house keeping and he determined to seek his fortune. After vowing eternal constancy he set sail to Europe and in course of time he brought up in Australia.

He then procured a position on a local paper and in his profession displayed so much enterprise that his employers in course of time sent him to investigate the slave trade in the Indian Ocean.

The vessel on which he sailed was wrecked and every soul on board except himself was drowned. He was found insensible on a coral reef by a party of cannibal islanders who took him prisoner and he was reserved to be served at a state dinner.

The daughter of the King, a dusky but comely maiden, sought his liberty at her father's hands and used such arguments as succeeded.

About this time a formidable rebellion broke out in the dusky King's dominions, and our Carolina boy, with his inherited warrior spirit, advised a plan of campaign to put down the rebellion, which being followed was so eminently successful that the King's foes were almost annihilated and as a reward for his genius and valor Hobbes was made Prime Minister.

The dusky Princess was very much in love with our hero, and did not fail to let the fact be known, but Hobbes eloquently and pathetically related how he loved his New York sweetheart and could not, therefore, share his love or be untrue to his American fiancée. The Princess accepted the situation, but she was sore stricken and pined away and soon died.

Her death was a severe blow to the King, who grieved intensely and soon after died.

Hobbes had in the meantime become so popular with these island people that he was unanimously elected to be King, and is now King Maletto.

The sequel is as interesting as any part of the story.

A few weeks ago King Maletto landed in New York and sought out his lady love, had a royal wedding, and after a few weeks of civilization, departed for his island kingdom, where, let us hope, he may forever reign in peace, the brave and adventurous North Carolina King.

Judge (to defenant)—"You are accused of having terribly beaten two night watchmen last night. What tempted you to do this?" My feeling of humanity, judge, because for one night watchman that clubbing would have been too much."—Ex.

To Destroy Fair Elections.

News and Observer.

The problem upon which the Republicans have been working, since it became apparent that the Populists would not go along with them, has been to fix up a scheme that would give them absolute control of the election machinery. Under the present election law, the chairman of each party names all the pollholders of the State. If, as has happened in the past, the Populist chairman worked in harmony with the Republicans, the arrangement was very satisfactory to the Republicans. But, as there is some fear on the part that the Populists will not be in harmony with them in 1898, they have hit upon a scheme to eliminate the regular Populist organization, and appoint the Populist pollholders themselves so as to give them control of the machinery. It is proposed to have three "supervisors of elections," one Republican, one Democrat, one Republican, who claim himself a Populist solely because he can serve the Republican party better by posing as a Populist than by coming out straight as a Republican.

Senator McCaskey is slated for the position of supervisor on behalf of the Populists. He wants to depose Wm. E. Fountain, who succeeds Hal Ayer as Populist chairman, and is quoted as saying:

"Fountain is really not chairman. Our party law expressly stipulates that the chairman must be elected. He was not elected by a majority of the State executive committee. He was not elected by a majority of the committee."

The programme is for the bolting Populists to name a proxy who shall act as guardians of fair elections, we find the supervisor.

Under the talk of being the special Republicans and bolting populists concocting a scheme that will make the elections whatever the two of fiers they appoint say they shall be. It is as deliberate a scheme to make fraud a was ever hatched.

Two Kansas farmers, John and Clarence Taylor, have utilized their barbed wire fences for telephonic communication. Their farms are in East Dickinson county, and two miles apart. Recently the men attached fine telephone instruments to their wire fences and found that they could talk to each other with ease. Storms do not appear to affect the communications, and it is probable that the system will become popular in Kansas.—Ex.

Some of you did belong to the church once, but you quit. God pity an old quitter! All can quit who want to, but I am going to stay by my job until it is done. I was born a Methodist, and all my grandparents, way back to Adam, were Methodists. Adam was a Methodist because he fell. He fell the first time the devil made a crack at him.—Sam Jones.

Making A Hero of Him.

Judge Norwood held court at Monroe last week and seems to have made a good impression, as he is capable of doing when he is "clothed and in his right mind." The Monroe bar, however, seems to have thought it such an unusual thing for a judge to hold court decently and in order for a week that it sloped over. If (the bar) held a meeting "and resolutions endorsing the judge as fair, able and impartial, were unanimously adopted."

It seems to us there is a disposition to make a hero of Judge Norwood, and we feel impelled to refer to it for the reason that the example thus set cannot have otherwise than a bad influence. The public is familiar with Judge Norwood's conduct on the bench on numerous occasions during the past two years. He disgraced the State and the judiciary, and so bad did his conduct become that a member of his own party introduced a resolution in the Legislature to impeach him. That he deserved impeachment we don't think any one will deny. But through the opportunities of Judge Norwood and his friends the impeachment resolutions were held up and he was given another trial. He didn't deserve it, but he got it and no one hopes more sincerely than does this writer that he will not again fall.

The matter should stop there but it has not. Various persons and newspapers have shown a disposition to slobber over Judge Norwood and laud him to the skies, and now comes the Monroe bar and whereas and resolves simply because the judge did his duty. The tendency of all this is to minimize Judge Norwood's offence and make it appear that his getting drunk on the bench was a very small matter after all. It has a tendency to cause the public to look with too much leniency on such conduct as Judge Norwood was guilty of, and, worst of all, it causes young men to think that if drunkenness in a public official is so lightly regarded it doesn't amount to much and therefore a little indulgence is not a grave matter.

Let Judge Norwood alone. Let him reform if he can and uphold his hands in his efforts, but don't try to make a hero of him—Statesville Landmark.

The mud, the "visiting revenues," tax collectors, McKinley prosperity and the North Carolina Legislature make a formidable ordeal for any man's christian patriotism.—Wilkesboro Chronicle.

"And you broke off the engagement?" said one young man. "Yes—not brutally," you know. But I managed it." "How?" "Told her what my salary is."—Washington Star.

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